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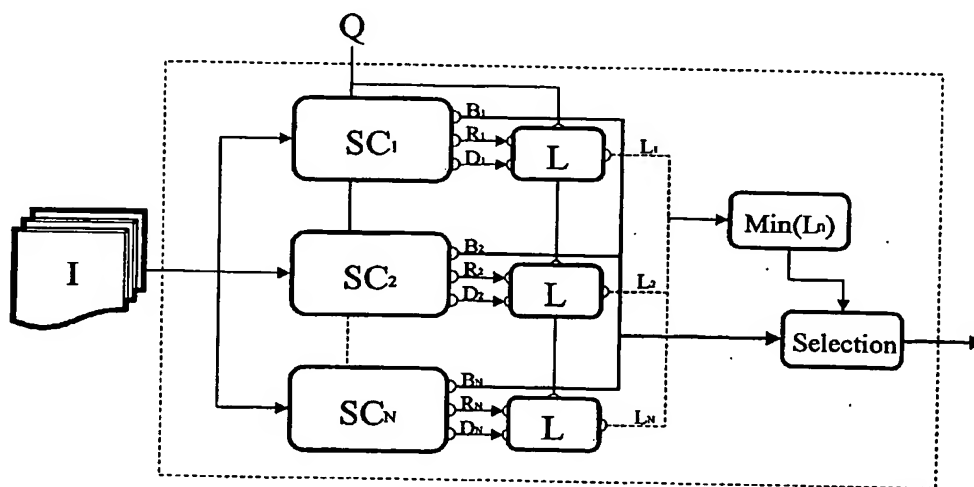
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(54) Title: METHOD OF SELECTING AMONG N "SPATIAL VIDEO CODECS" THE OPTIMUM CODEC FOR A SAME INPUT SIGNAL



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method of selecting among N "Spatial Video CODECs" where N is an integer number greater than 1, the optimum "Spatial Video CODEC" for a same input signal I. "Spatial Video CODEC" is understood as the combination of any transform of the input signal, followed by a quantization of the transform coefficients and a corresponding entropic coder. Firstly from all the N "Spatial Video CODECs" for the same input signal I and a same quality parameter Q, the rate R and the distortion measures D are obtained. Q is an integer value between 0 and 100, defined by any rate-distortion algorithm to provide a compression of the input sequence with constant rate or with constant distortion. Further an optimality criterion is calculated. The optimality criterion is defined as the minimization of the value $L_n = f(R_n, D_n)$ calculated for all the n from 1 to N. n is the index of the "Spatial Video CODEC", where $f(R_n, D_n)$ is a function of R_n and D_n . The function f may be defined as $f(R_n, D_n) = R_n + lD_n$, l being the Lagrange multiplier that weights the relative influence of the rate R and of the distortion D.

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